



# NWSChat

**Enhanced Communications for Increased Decision Support**

Matthew Duplantis  
NWS Shreveport, ITO  
NWSChat Administration Team



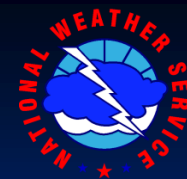
# What is NWSChat?



- NWSChat is an instant messaging (IM) system owned /operated by the NWS
  - Identical features to IEM Chat (even some improvements)
- IM is utilized by NWS operational personnel to **share critical warning decision expertise** and other types of significant weather information essential to the NWS's mission of saving lives and property
- This **information is exchanged in real-time** with the media and emergency response community, who in turn play a key role in communicating the NWS' hazardous weather messages to the public
- IM provides media and emergency response partners with the **ability to communicate significant event reports back to NWS** operational personnel, who in turn utilize the information to make effective warning decisions
- NWS partners can also use IM as an efficient means of seeking **clarifications and enhancements to the communication** stream originating from the NWS during a fast-paced significant weather or hydrologic event



# NWSChat - The In's & Out's



## Jabber or XMPP

Communication protocol NWSChat uses. It is what Google Talk uses. NWSChat and Google Talk are implementations of XMPP. Standards-based open source server and client

## Jabber ID

Unique identifier of your account, much like an email address. Jabber IDs always include the server name, just like emails.

## Chat Group / Shared Roster

A collection of users that can see each other as “buddies”. This just means you can tell when they are online and get more information about them. This is configured on the server side, so there is no need to “add buddies” when partners sign up.

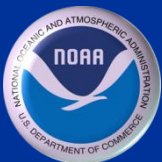
## Chat Room

A virtual meeting place where multiple users can exchange information simultaneously. You speak, everyone else in the room can read it. “nwsbot” lives in this room as well.

- Logically named chat rooms with the ability for users to simultaneously participate in any number of chat rooms
- Ability to control who has chatroom access

Users can select the client software that meets their security or platform requirements

- PC chat clients
- Web client
- Mobile chat clients





# Time for a tour



Conversation Options

sjtchat@conference.iemchat.com x lubchat@conference.iemchat.com x mafchat@conference.iemchat.com x ouchat@conference.iemchat.com x

Topic: Welcome to SJT room. Please follow our chat etiquette <https://iemchat.com/use.phtml>

12 people in room

- ★ iembot
- ★ nwssjt1
- ▶ krcbweather
- ▶ ksanweather
- ▶ ktabweather
- ▶ ktxs-nsj
- ▶ ktxsradar
- ▶ kxxv\_metline
- ▶ nw9wx
- ▶ nwsfwd1
- ▶ nwsfwd1
- ▶ nwsfwd1
- ▶ nwsfwd1
- ▶ the\_kauz

[04:05:58] iembot Sweetwater [Nolan Co,TX] amateur radio reports HAIL of golf ball size (E1.75 INCH) at 11:05 PM CDT --

[04:08:41] krcbweather So when will the MCS in S. Texas start killing these things? (says with a smirk on his face)

[04:09:06] nwssjt1 :-D

[04:12:46] iembot SJT issues Severe Thunderstorm Warning for Sterling [TX] till 11:45 PM CDT

[04:18:10] ktxs-nsj viewer in SWW on the north city limits near coronado ridge: hail covering the ground... mostly golf ball, a few larger (tennis balls)... about 2307

[04:20:00] ktxs-nsj viewer kc5ydl reports quarter hail in E-side SWW, golf ball hail N-side SWW at 23:10

[04:20:25] nwssjt1 thanks

[04:20:33] ktxs-nsj viewer report the the power is out due to high winds on the north side in hamlin

[04:20:47] nwssjt1 wind estimate?

[04:20:48] ktxs-nsj another viewer call of "larger than golf ball" on the N side of SWW

[04:20:55] ktxs-nsj no... just that the power was out (via email)

[04:23:33] iembot Sweetwater [Nolan Co,TX] broadcast media reports HAIL of tennis ball size (E2.50 INCH) at 11:07 PM CDT --

[04:23:35] iembot 1 E Sweetwater [Nolan Co,TX] broadcast media reports HAIL of golf ball size (E1.75 INCH) at 11:10 PM CDT --

[04:24:46] ktxs-nsj SchoolNet measured a wind gust of 45 mph at Anson MS

[04:24:55] nwssjt1 10-4

[04:26:55] ktxs-nsj power out in hamlin

[04:26:58] ktxs-nsj (trained spotter)

[04:27:18] nwssjt1 yeah we been on the tele with the PD up there

[04:27:59] nwssjt1 any better gus out of Anson?

[04:28:05] nwssjt1 gus=gust

[04:28:22] iembot SJT issues Severe Thunderstorm Warning for Haskell, Jones, Shackelford [TX] till 12:15 AM CDT

[04:29:46] kxxv\_metline SJT: Will San Saba drop at 11:30?

[04:30:13] nwssjt1 Re-issue it

[04:30:14] iembot SJT issues Severe Thunderstorm Warning for Nolan, Taylor [TX] till 12:15 AM CDT

[04:30:19] nwssjt1 there it is

[04:30:26] iembot SJT issues Severe Thunderstorm Warning for Mason, McCulloch, San Saba [TX] till 12:00 AM CDT

[04:31:00] kxxv\_metline got it. thank you.

[04:32:37] ktxsradar no other gusts beyond the 45 at Anson yet

[04:33:12] nwssjt1 thanks, we only got 50 mph just north of Anson, but I bet in the Bow it is much stronger

[04:33:21] ktxsradar yup... nice rear inflow jet on it

[04:33:39] nwssjt1 64 KTs base velocity of KDYX

[04:33:49] nwssjt1 uh oh

[04:33:53] ktxsradar yup... it's maxing out the inbounds in the I2 vels

[04:35:23] ktxsradar having to manually dealias in my head

[04:38:59] iembot 19 Wnw Sterling City [Sterling Co,TX] broadcast media reports HAIL of penny size (E0.75 INCH) at 11:20 PM CDT --

[04:39:39] ksanweather what are you guys thinking for sterling county??

[04:40:05] nwssjt1 will be re-issuing it shortly

[04:40:24] ksanweather is there rotatoin with it

[04:40:30] iembot 1 N Anson [Jones Co, TX] law enforcement reports TSTM WND GST of E60 MPH at 11:39 PM CDT --

[04:41:47] nwssjt1 yes, but broad, the RFD wrapped into it, but not that impressed at this time.

[04:42:06] nwssjt1 Tell Justin thanks for the call while you wree TV

[04:42:16] nwssjt1 wree=were

[04:42:51] nwssjt1 we got a better gust north of Anson Nate

[04:43:37] nwssjt1 71 kts on KDYX impressive

[04:43:40] ktxsradar yup

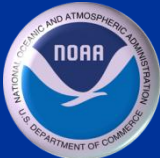
[04:44:29] ktxsradar maybe another rear inflow jet trying to eat away at the hotter returns just E of Anson


[04:44:53] nwssjt1 check out a loop of the book end wooo

[04:45:08] iembot SJT issues Severe Thunderstorm Warning for Sterling [TX] till 12:30 AM CDT

Actual log from May 5, 2006

Invite Add Send






NOAA's National Weather Service

## NWSChat

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EXPERIMENTAL, NON-OPERATIONAL

**VTEC Options**

Issuing Office:  
MEMPHIS

Phenomena:  
Severe Thunderstorm

Significance:  
Warning

Event:  
1

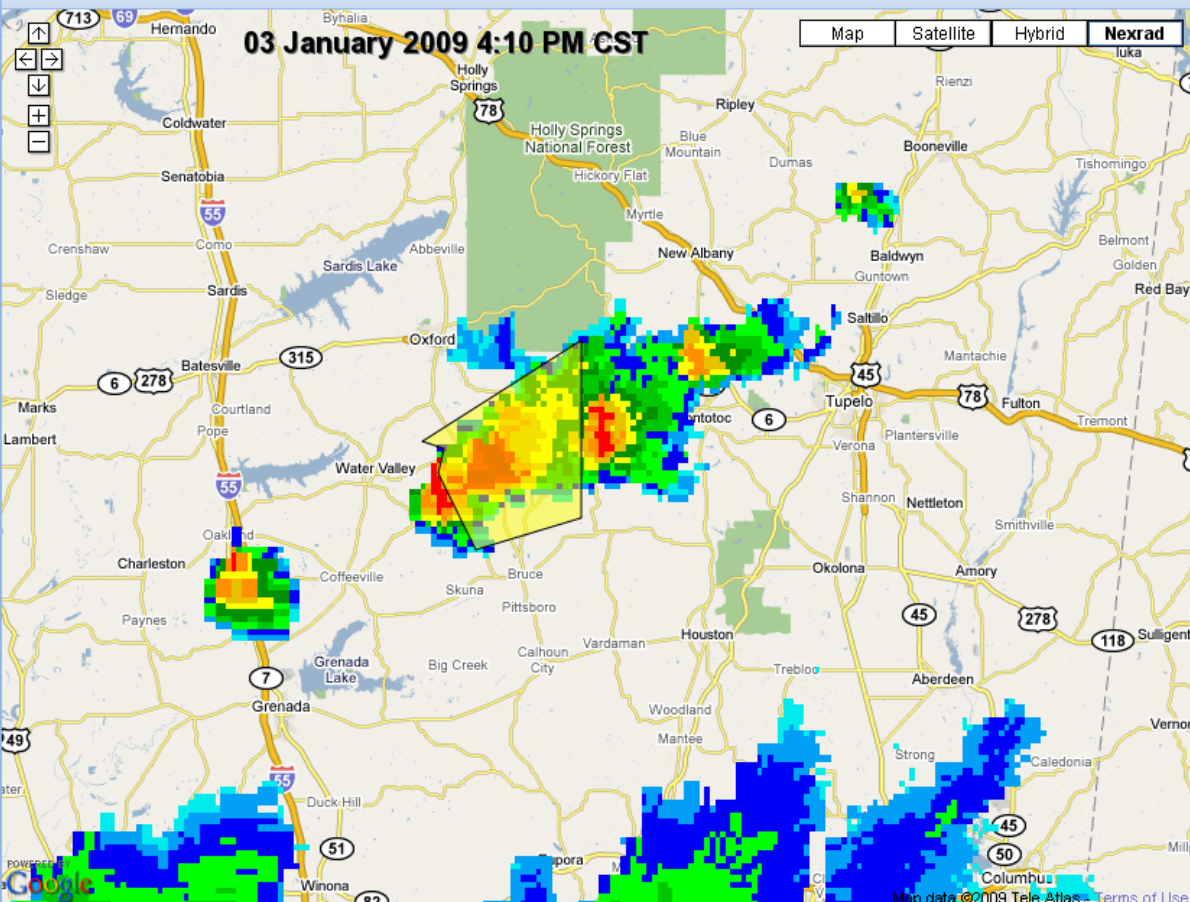
Year:  
2009

Event Timeline:

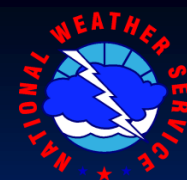
MEMPHIS Severe Thunderstorm Warning #1 issued 2009-01-03 22:10Z expires 2009-01-03 22:45Z

Help RADAR Map Text Data **Google Map** SBW History Storm Reports within SBW All Storm Reports Geography Included List Events

Map Satellite Hybrid **Nexrad**



03 January 2009 4:10 PM CST



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## VTEC Options



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Google Map

SBW History

Storm Reports within SBW

All Storm Reports

Geography Included

List Events

Issuing Office:

MEMPHIS

Phenomena:

Severe Thunderstorm

Significance:

Warning

Event:

2

Year:

2009

Event Timeline:



Update Page

Create Linkable Page:

Stable URL

MEMPHIS Severe Thunderstorm Warning #2 issued 2009-01-03 23:30Z expires 2009-01-03 23:48Z

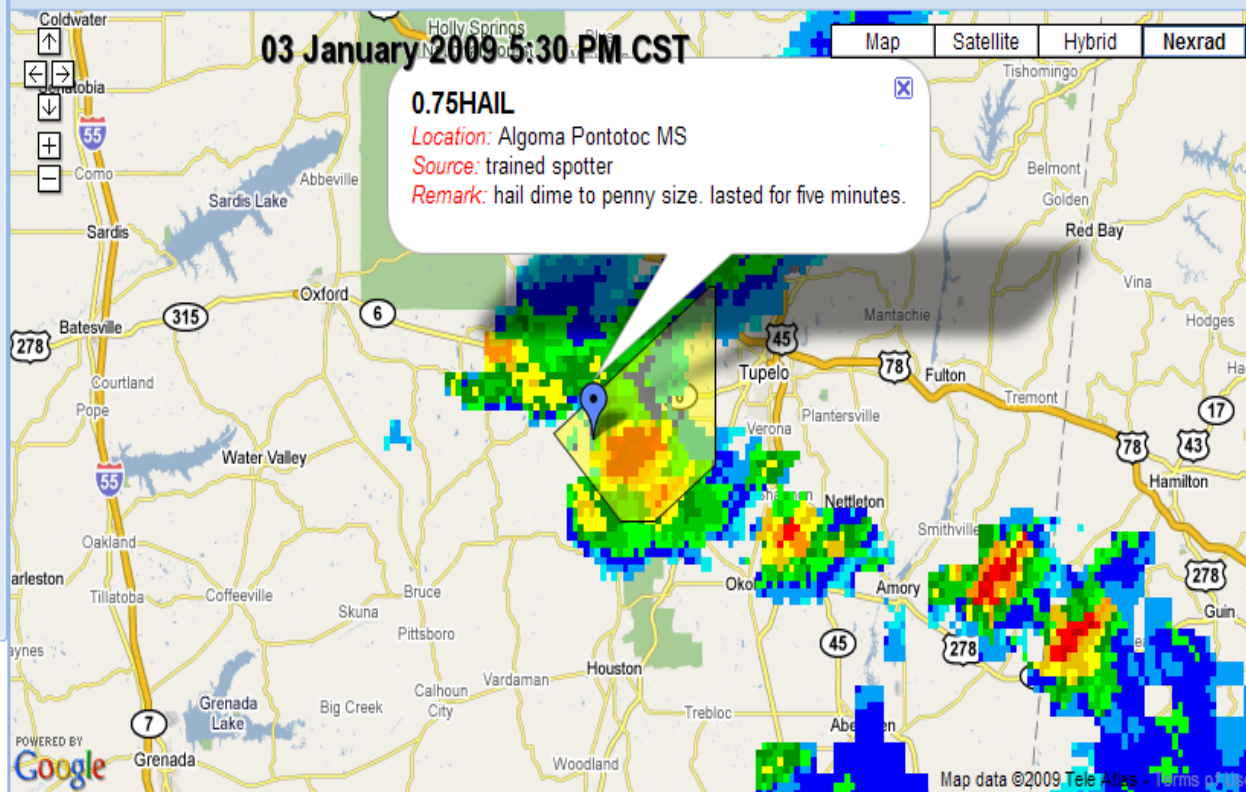
03 January 2009 5:30 PM CST

0.75HAIL

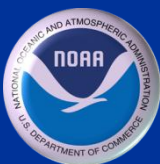
Location: Algoma Pontotoc MS

Source: trained spotter

Remark: hail dime to penny size. lasted for five minutes.



Map data ©2009 Tele Atlas - Terms of Use





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MEMPHIS Severe Thunderstorm Warning #1 issued 2009-01-03 22:10Z expires 2009-01-03 22:45Z

Issuance
**Update 1**
Update 2
Update 3
Update 4

Issuing Office:  
MEMPHIS

Phenomena:  
Severe Thunderstorm

Significance:  
Warning

Event:  
1

Year:  
2009

Event Timeline:  
1

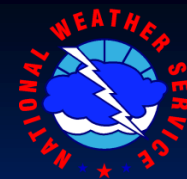
Update Page

Create Linkable Page:  
Stable URL

000  
WWUS54 KMEG 032227  
SVSMEG  
  
SEVERE WEATHER STATEMENT  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE MEMPHIS TN  
427 PM CST SAT JAN 3 2009  
  
MSC013-071-032245-  
/O.CON.KMEG.SV.W.0001.000000T0000Z-090103T2245Z/  
LAFAYETTE MS-CALHOUN MS-  
427 PM CST SAT JAN 3 2009  
  
...A SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WARNING REMAINS IN EFFECT UNTIL 445 PM CST  
FOR NORTHWESTERN CALHOUN AND SOUTHEASTERN LAFAYETTE COUNTIES...  
  
AT 427 PM CST...NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE DOPPLER RADAR CONTINUED TO  
INDICATE A SEVERE THUNDERSTORM PRODUCING PENNY SIZE HAIL...AND  
DAMAGING WINDS IN EXCESS OF 60 MPH. THIS STORM WAS LOCATED NEAR  
TULA...OR 15 MILES SOUTHEAST OF OXFORD...MOVING NORTHEAST AT 20 MPH.  
  
OTHER LOCATIONS IN THE WARNING INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO DELAY  
AND LAFAYETTE SPRINGS.  
  
.STAY TUNED TO THIS BROADCAST FOR THE LATEST UPDATES AND INFORMATION.  
TO REPORT SEVERE WEATHER ONLY...CALL 1 800 4 3 2 0 8 7 5.  
  
LAT...LON 3403 8944 3415 8951 3419 8950 3420 8954  
3436 8924 3408 8924 3407 8928  
TIME...MOT...LOC 2227Z 244DEG 16KT 3421 8932  
  
\$\$

NWSChat (<https://nwschat.weather.gov>)

# NWS Bot Examples



BMX issues [Severe Thunderstorm Warning](#) for Montgomery [AL] till 6:30 PM CDT

Followup statements (SVS)

BMX cancels [Severe Thunderstorm Warning](#) for Elmore [AL]

Special Marine Warnings

MFL issues [Marine Warning](#) for Biscayne Bay, Coastal waters from Deerfield Beach to Ocean Reef FL out 20 nm [AM] till 8:45 AM EDT

Non-precipitating warnings (requires VTEC)

OUN issues [Fire Weather Warning](#) valid at Aug 18, 12:00 PM CDT for Comanche, Stephens, Garvin, Murray, Pontotoc, Coal, Cotton, Jefferson, Carter, Johnston, Atoka, Love, Marshall, Bryan [OK] and Archer, Clay, Wichita [TX] till Aug 18, 8:00 PM CDT

SPC Mesoscale Convective Discussions (MCD)

Storm Prediction Center issues [Mesoscale Discussion #1836](#)

SPC Tornado and Severe Thunderstorm watches

Storm Prediction Center issues [SEVERE TSTM watch](#) till 17:00 UTC

National Hurricane Center products

National Hurricane Center issues [ADVISORY #32](#) for HURRICANE GORDON

ASOS extreme wind gusts

WINNER,SD (KSFD) ASOS reports gust of 55 knots from SSE @ 0344Z

KSFD 150353Z AUTO 16035G55KT 7SM FEW110 28/12 A2957 RMK AO2 PK WND 15055/0344 SLP991 T02780122 TSNO \$

Local Storm Reports (LSR)

Monroe [Turner Co, SD] emergency mngr reports [TSTM WND DMG](#) at 12:18 PM CDT -- 4 to 8 inch diameter tree limbs knocked down

WFO optional links to NOW casts, RER statements, Flood warnings/statements, Hurricane Statements, others can be added.

SJU issues [Flood Advisory \(FLS\)](#)

NESDIS Satellite Precipitation Estimates (SPE)

NESDIS issues [Satellite Precipitation Estimates](#)

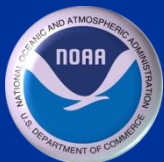
West Texas Mesonet wind gust alerts

GRAHAM,TX (XGHS) ASOS reports gust of 52 knots from SSE @ 2110Z

XGHS 162110Z 15033G52KT -RA 23/19 A3006 RMK AO1 T02280187 P0001 RH 080%

Special Weather Statements (SPS)

EPZ ISSUES [THIS IS A REISSUE OF THE RIVER FLOOD WARNING FOR THE RIO GRANDE IN EL PASO](#) for El Paso [TX] till 7:00 AM MDT



# Application and Impacts



IM consistently listed as a **Best Practice** in Service Assessments:  
Veterans Day Weekend Tornado Outbreak of November 9-11, 2002  
Record Tornado Outbreaks of May 4-10, 2003  
Hurricane Katrina, August 23-31, 2005  
Tornadoes in Southern Alabama and Georgia on March 1, 2007

From the Veterans Day 2002 Assessment:  
Birmingham's ABC 33/40 chief meteorologist  
James Spann commented,

*"This is the greatest thing that ever happened  
between the private sector and the National  
Weather Service. The greatest ever."*

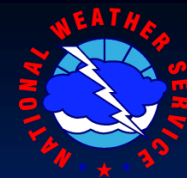


NWS Birmingham

Carbon Hill Elementary School



# Application and Impacts



From the May 2003 Assessment:

*"Chat is by far the most valuable tool we have here. Even before warnings came out we knew they would. That was huge. Every office needs to use it. It's the best thing that ever happened as far as being able to pull everything in one place."*

- Greg Dee, Chief Meteorologist, WDHN-TV, Dothan, Alabama 15



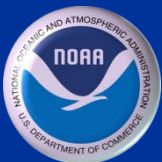
EF4 tornado near Enterprise, Alabama, March 1, 2007  
(photo courtesy of J. Barry Mott)

**From the March 2007 Assessment:**

*"A very successful means of communication initiated by WFO Memphis was an instant messaging system."*

*"The media uses the system to relay damage reports to the WFO and ask questions of the forecasters."*

*"All of the area 26 television stations that were interviewed, mentioned the usefulness of the instant messaging system and would like to see its use greatly expanded."*





# Questions?

[nwschatadmin@noaa.gov](mailto:nwschatadmin@noaa.gov)

Or chat with us online...we're in your  
Buddy List

